

Message Text

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER'S CABINET

1. ON DECEMBER 24 PARTY ORGAN "RABOTNICHESKO DELO" (RD) CARRIED A P. 6 STORY BY ITS WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT VLADIMIR LANKOV ON COMQEEHUON OF PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER'S CABINET. RD SAID: "IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS PRE-ELECTION PROMISES, CARTER HAS TRIED TO INTRODUCE A CERTAIN BALANCE IN THE CABINET AND TO RECONCILE, AS WASHINGTON POST WRITES, THE SYMBOLISM OF AMERICAN POLITICS WITH THE CAPABILITIES OF THE VARIOUS PERSONALITIES. ONE OF THE MAIN REQUIREMENTS OF ETHNIC GROUPS AND THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT WAS THAT THE CABINET SHOULD INCLUDE AN APPROPRIATE NUMBER OF THEIR REPRESENTATIVES. CARTER HAS DEALT WITH THIS TASK MORE SUCCESSFULLY THAN HIS PREDECESSORS, BUT WORSE THAN HIS PROMISES. IN HIS CABINET, THERE ARE TWO WOMEN HOLDING MINISTERIAL POSTS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN U.S. HISTORY, WHILE HARRIS IS THE FIRST BLACK....IN COMPARISON WITH THE KENNEDY AND NIXON ADMINISTRATIONS, THERE ARE MORE NEW PERSONS IN CARTER'S ADMINISTRATION, BUT THEIR NUMBER IS AGAIN SMALLER THAN PROMISES." THE SAME ARTICLE NOTED THAT THE FUTURE VICE PRESIDENT WILL PLAY "AN UNPRECEDENTED ROLE IN THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTRY" BY BEING GIVEN BROADER POWERS AND FUNCTIONS AND WILL REPRESENT THE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 SOFIA 02747 301045Z

COUNTRY AND THE PRESIDENT ABROAD.

2. FOLLOWING THE NAMING OF CYRUS VANCE AS SECSTATE-DESIGNATE RD CARRIED (DEC. 4) HIS BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH AND CONCLUDED THAT IT WAS "PROBABLY BECAUSE OF HIS RICH EXPERIENCE IN INTERNATIONAL LIFE THAT VANCE WAS APPOINTED AS THE NEW US

SECRETARY OF STATE." TWO DAYS LATER LANKOV IN RD QUOTED THE WASHINGTON POST IN EVALUATING VANCE: "THE SELECTION OF VANCE SAYS A GREAT DEAL ABOUT THE NEWLY-ELECTED PRESIDENT HIMSELF. HE FREQUENTLY EMPHASIZED THAT HE PERSONALLY WANTS TO CONDUCT THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE COUNTRY. VANCE IS THE EXPERIENCED, RESPECTED, AND DISCREET ASSISTANT WHO WILL GIVE THE NEW PRESIDENT THE CHANCE TO DO IT." THEN LANKOV CITED THE NYT TO SHOW A POSSIBLY DIFFERENCE WITH KISSINGER, SAYING VANCE WILL LOOK MORE TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR SUPPORT. TO PEOPLE WHO KNOW HIM, RD SAID, "VANCE IS A BRILLIANT ADMINI-STRATOR, BALANCED, COMPETENT, COMPOSED AND RESERVED. HE IS AN EXECUTIVE, NOT AN INVENTOR." HE WILL FOLLOW CARTER'S POLICY BUT "VANCE'S PERSONAL POINTS OF VIEW ARE NOT KNOWN AND THUS NO ONE CAN FORESEE PRECISELY WHAT THE POLITICAL TACTICS OF THE FUTURE ADMINISTRATION WILL BE."

3. ON DECEMBER 16 LANKOV IN RD AGAIN CITED US PAPERS ABOUT FUTURE CABINET MEMBERS, INCLUDING DOD SECRETARY HAROLD BROWN WHOSE APPOINTMENT " HAS TO BE INTERPRETED AS CARTER'S INTENTION TO PAY ATTENTION TO THE PROBLEM OF DISARMEMENT." SECRETARY OF TREASURY BLUMENTHAL, RD SAID, WILL OCCUPY ONE OF THE KEY POSTS IN THE ADMINISTRATION, AND "HE IS KNOWN TO BE A CAPABLE BUSINESSMAN" WHO "WILL TRY TO REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT VARIOUS SOCIAL PROGRAMS."

4. ON DECEMBER 22 RD CARRIED LANKOV'S WASHINGTON REPORT ON CHARLES SCHULTZE, ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI, AND ANDREW YOUNG. RD SAID: "SCHULTZE'S ECONOMIC CONCEPTIONS CAN BE DEFINED AS A LITTLE LEFT OF CENTER, VERY CLOSE TO THOSE OF CARTER. THIS FACTOR IS A GOOD INDICATION THAT SCHULTZE'S OPINION WILL HAVE A DECISIVE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 SOFIA 02747 301045Z

INFLUENCE ON THE ECONOMIC POLICY THAT WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY CARTER." BRZEZINSKI, RD CONTINUED, IS WELL KNOWN AMONG US POLITICAL CIRCLES AND HIS POSITION "WILL GIVE HIM GREAT POSSI-BILITIES FOR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION TO WORK OUT THE FOREIGN POLICY COURSE OF THE US." THE PARTY ORGAN SAID HE IS "ONE OF THE CON-TEMPORARY CHAMPIONS OF THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM." TO DEFEND THIS SYSTEM SUCCESSFULLY "BRZEZINSKI HAS TO BE INTRANSIGENT TOWARD THE WORLD OF SOCIALISM." ACCORDING TO RD BRZEZINSKI SAID AT A NEW CONFERENCE THAT HE IS NOT AGAINST DETENTE AND "SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS REPRESENT 'A ONE-WAY STREET' WHERE CHANGES ARE NECESSARY FOR THEIR IMPROVEMENT." CON-CERNING ANDREW YOUNG, RD POINTED OUT THAT HE WAS THE FIRST BLACK IN CARTER'S ADMINISTRATION AND, ACCORDING TO "OB-SERVERS", THIS WILL CREALI "FAVORABLE CONDITIONS FOR IMPROVING US RELATIONS WITH A NUMBER OF THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES.

5. COMMENT. BULGARIAN COVERAGE OF PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER'S APPOINTMENTS HAS BEEN SPARSE, LARGELY FACTUAL,

MODERATE IN TONE, AND CAUTIOUS IN PREDICTIONS ON DOMESTIC
AND FOREIGN POLICIES. (SEE SEPTTEL ON CARTER'S FOREIGN POLICY.)
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